

**Indiana Disproportionality Committee  
Large Committee Meeting  
April 9, 2008**

**Minutes**

This meeting was held at the Indiana Youth Institute.

**Present:** Henry Mosley (by phone), Mark Bryson, Nakaisha Tolbert-Banks, Jennifer Darby (ICJI), Nichole Brock (IYI), Katie Schlafer, Monique Busch (Lutheran Child and Family Services), Daniel Abbott and Clara Anderson.

The meeting was convened by Clara Anderson at 1:10 p.m. All present were welcomed and introduced themselves.

**Host Agency:** Nichole from Indiana Youth Institute gave a brief overview of the programs and services at IYI. IYI is a long standing and active member of IDC. Gabrielle Campo who works with our research committee was not able to attend today's meeting.

**The February 13, 2008 minutes were reviewed and there were no corrections.**

**Update on 2007 Annual Report:** Monique Busch shared a copy of the draft annual report that is almost ready for the printer. We realize that we are missing one logo however; we cannot delay this process any longer. Our membership has increased since last year and we have already added another agency for 2008. Special thanks go to Gabrielle, Katie and Monique for championing this effort. In addition, special thanks to MCCOY for agreeing to pay for the printing costs associated with the production of this product. Monique expects that the report should be returned from the printer in a few weeks. We have asked for 500 paper copies to be shared with Commission on Disproportionality, partner agency directors, legislators, Indianapolis City County Council, and other selected groups. The final product will be posted on our website and distributed electronically.

**Sub-Committee Reports:**

- **Training:** Calvin Roberson was not present. Indiana Minority Health Coalition had their annual luncheon today. Calvin has shared some of IDC's training committee information with the Commission.
- **Research:** Monique Busch
  - Monique has offered to collaborate with the researcher for the Commission (Dr. Jackie Green and Charlene Hedrick) and they seem to welcome the possibility.
  - Updating bibliography – Katie Schlafer has been working on updating the Annotated Bibliography. This document has a wealth of resources and needs to be put on our website and shared with Commissioners. Katie informed the group that she has been trying to add JJ, MH & Education resources because the current document does not have as much in those areas. Please send other resources to Katie and Chris Morrison that have taken a leadership role with is project.
  - Monique announced that an upcoming special issue of Child Welfare will include an article that was a collaborative including IDC.

- Resource Development: DaMica O'Bryant was not present and Clara has not connected with her. She was very active in the past but lacked support in her efforts. We have continued to secure most of the support for IDC specific efforts through member agencies. In addition, other partners have secured grants with collaboration from member agencies. Since IDC is not a legally recognized entity, this is the best way to operate. IDC as chosen to maintain its collaborative structure because of the flexibility that it affords. Clara asked for volunteers to work with this committee. Jennifer will work with this group. Her background is in this area.
- Community Awareness: Tawanna Clarke was not present today and there has not been a meeting recently. She has been spending more time out of town and might be moving in the future.
  - Newsletter has not been distributed this year. The plan was to feature the co-chairs for the Commission. There is a template for the newsletter with the questions, etc. Clara will share that info with whoever volunteers to work with it.
  - NaKaisha volunteered to facilitate getting things done. She might consider chairing the committee.
  - Community Awareness has been one of the biggest focus points of IDC and we need to continue this effort or modify things to make things work.
  - It was suggested that we combine development and marketing or marketing and research. There are a lot of parts to both of these groups and very important parts ie:
    - Newsletter
    - Website: Jennifer indicated that ICJI will continue to host the website. She has communicated with the IT person and Jennifer can forward all final documents to her for posting.
    - Presentations at conferences, etc
    - Brochures
    - It makes sense to combine the subcommittees if we don't lose the focus of the groups
  - Update brochures needed for future conferences, etc.
  - Monique reported that Martin University is having a Community Day that IDC should be a part of. Monique will follow-up.
- Public Policy: Mark Bryson reported that his committee met on March 10 and will be meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month, unless notified. The committee decided to share responsibility to cover the various Commission sub-committees. The current assignments are; CL Day = Child Welfare; Jessica Woehler = Juvenile Justice; James Garrett = Education; and Mark Bryson = Mental Health. These folks will communicate Commission's work with IDC and find opportunities to make input into the work of the commission.
  - 2008 EOY Legislation summaries were shared by Clara

#### **Update on Commission on the Disproportionality in Youth Services**

- Committee members who have participated
  - There was a discussion about the various subcommittee
    - JJ is active
    - MH
    - CW
    - Education

- A Stakeholder sub-committee has been established to involve community people as well as other organizations. Clara will make IDC aware of developments to engage clients and staff at every appropriate place.
- Link to web-site from our website and visa versa. Jennifer informed IDC that she has already checked and ICJI will continue to host the IDC website. We only need to get documents to Jennifer and she will connect with their IT person. This is welcome news.

#### **Other Business**

- Strategic Plan for IDC is needed to insure that we are all focused on our future and our perceived role since the establishment of the Commission.
  - We will devote the next meeting to Planning
  - Each Committee is asked to target their priorities
  - This meeting will be at White on June 11.
- Upcoming events & coverage
  - SOBY April 17
  - Juvenile Detention = Lisa McGuire and Gabrielle Campo
  - Juvenile Judges Symposium in June 18, 2008
  - IARCCA

**Adjourn at 3:10 p.m.**

**Next Meeting will be June 11, 2008 at White's Residential and Family Services which is about 2 hours from Indy.** General Directions from Indy: North on 37 to 13 North (turn left) and proceed on 13 to 124 (turn right) White's Residential and Family services will be less than a mile on the left. Enter the campus and proceed to Main Entrance. Someone will welcome you and show you to the Community Room.

**Other meetings in 2008: August 13, 2008, October 8, 2008 & December 10, 2008**